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MATCH DAY ROAD SAFETY

Dear Parent/ Player

Cronulla Seagulls FC was recently awarded a Community Grant by NRMA Insurance to raise awareness of Match Day road safety issues. The Committee has decided to declare Round 17 (24-25 July) to be the 'Road Safety Round'.

We all know that Woollooware Oval gets busy, but did you know quite how busy? Round 17 is actually a quiet round by our standards. We are hosting 'only' 31 games on Saturday 24th and 10 games on Sunday 25th. For Round 3 we hosted 36 games on Saturday 24th April and 11 on Monday 26th.

The busiest period is early on Saturday morning. We usually have 10 games kicking off at 8.00am, with 6 more at 8.40am and 4 more at 8.50am. You do the math! That's 20 games, 40 teams & about 280 kids all arriving at or leaving the oval within a 1-hour window. Add on parents, siblings, grandparents, Ground Control & referees and it all adds up to a lot of traffic in a very short period of time.

If we were a primary school with 280 pupils we would have prominent road signage, speed & parking restrictions, a pedestrian crossing and a lollipop lady on hand. Yet we benefit from none of these safety measures. Despite this, the Committee of Cronulla Seagulls FC is determined that we should never have a serious road accident near our ground. For this we need your co-operation. Please read and act upon the safety tips overleaf.

Thank you!

Match Day Road Safety Awareness Campaign

IN THE CAR

- The most effective safety measure is the simplest – slow down around the oval on match days. It may be legal to drive at 50 km/h but ask yourself the question – is it also sensible?
- We'd all like to find that perfect parking spot close to the oval. But make sure you're paying proper attention to the road while you're scanning for spots.
- Most people need to cross at least one road to reach the oval. Bear in mind that there is a lot of pedestrian activity at this time and they don't always behave predictably. Pedestrians running late may be tempted to 'nip across' small gaps in traffic that they would never normally attempt. Pedestrians frequently emerge from in between parked cars. Don't assume that pedestrians will always act prudently.
- The heaviest-used pedestrian crossing point is on Caronia Avenue just near the junction with Woollooware Road. There are some very tempting car park spots around there. Please remember that parking too close to this dangerous corner reduces visibility both for cars and for pedestrians.
- The car in front of you may belong to a lost parent from another club who's never been to Woollooware Oval before. Watch out for erratic driving, sudden braking and last-moment turns!

ON FOOT

- Always hold the hand of a young child while crossing any road near the oval, even the narrow side streets.
- Many of us juggle hectic schedules and multiple activities with tight turnarounds, especially on a Saturday morning. It's always better to be a couple of minutes late to the game or to your next commitment than to risk dashing across a busy road.
- It's frustrating that there are no marked pedestrian crossings around the oval. But don't forget the basic rules we've all been taught since we were kids. Look both ways, walk don't run, don't cross between parked cars.
- Please take special care when crossing Caronia Avenue near Woollooware Road. Cars sometimes sweep round that corner at ludicrous speed.

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